Beirut's Garden of Forgiveness put on hold. -- Perth in the market for some personality -- investment in cultural infrastructure might help (along with some world-class architecture). -- The spectacle rising on Dublin's Docklands. -- Images released for River Avon pedestrian bridge proposals (but some think Shakespeare will turn over in his grave). -- The founder of America's first post-war planned community looks back, looks forward. -- Sasaki sees sustainable as the way to go. -- Call for entries for innovation in affordable housing. Weekend diversions: Inside Holl's MITs "sponge" at CCA, and a stream of views of the L.A. River in L.A.

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Beirut's Hadiqat As-Samah: the Garden of Forgiveness, Slated for 2008, on Wartime Hold... Can a garden do what endless fighting and diplomacy have failed to accomplish?

Perth in the market for some personality: The 'town at the end of the Nullarbor' wants more...in a city largely devoid of world-class architecture... people are beginning to ask: what should we usefully be doing with our wealth to make Perth less dull? biggest barriers: fear of new ideas, over-regulation and a failure...to invest substantially in cultural infrastructure. - The Australian

Dublin's Docklands: a Spectacle in Red, Green and Blue -- Martha Schwartz; Teros; Tinos Resources; Studio Daniel Libeskind; Spiers and Major Associates [images] - LandscapeOnline

Bridge creates troubled water: Five designs for a new [pedestrian] bridge in front of one of England's most famous scenes at Stratford-upon-Avon have been revealed...protesters claim...would forever change a famous vista. -- Flint & Neill Partnership/Dissing & Weitling; Ian Ritchie Architects/Schlaich Bergemann; Spence Associates/Buro Happold; Whitby Bird Ltd; Wilkinson Eyre Architects/Ove Arup & Partners [slide show] - BBC News

Podcast: An Interview With Bob Simon, Founder of Reston, Virginia: At age 92, Simon looks back on the community he founded 40 years ago, and to the future as his community changes with the times. - PLANetizen

Q&A with Sasaki Associates: A Comprehensive View on Sustainable Design: ...firm brings philosophy of green design to all aspects of its practice, including its own offices, and the projects it supports, like the ASLA green roof. - LAND Online (ASLA)

Call for entries: Inaugural Terner Prize for Innovation and Leadership in Affordable Housing; deadline: September 18 (U.S. projects only) - University of California, Berkeley (Center for Community Innovation, College of Environmental Design)

On View: "Inside the Sponge": Steven Holl's Simmons Hall at MIT presented from the perspective of its residents...including student design competition to modify the building, "How to Drill a Hole in Simmons Hall"; at Canadian Centre for Architecture through November 12 - Archiseek (Canada)

On View: Stream of views on L.A. River: Images flow in a Skirball Cultural Center display that raises issues about nature and the city... "L.A. River Reborn" - Los Angeles Times

Inflatable Architecture (and more!) On View in Anaheim August 19-27 [images] - ArchNewsNow

Fine Tuning: Utah State University Performance Hall: Inspired by the surrounding mountains, a new building establishes a campus arts precinct that bridges the town/gown divide. -- Sasaki Associates [images] - ArchNewsNow

-- Inauguration: SANAA/Kazuyo Sejima + Ryue Nishizawa: Zollverein School, Essen, Germany
-- Under construction: Rem Koolhaas/OMA: Coal Washing Plant, Zollverein Mining Complex, Essen, Germany
-- Master Plan: Rem Koolhaas/OMA: Zollverein Mining Complex, Essen, Germany

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